Method for the production of 2-keto-L-gulonic acid esters

Abstract

A method for the production of C₁-C₁₀-alkyl 2-keto-L-gulonates by esterification of 2-keto-L-gulonic acid anhydrate with an anhydrous C₁-C₁₀-alkyl alcohol in the presence of an acidic homogeneous catalyst in a reactor cascade comprising at least two reactors, one of these reactors being a tubular reactor, without the water forming in the esterification being removed from the reaction space.